

Remarks

The present invention, as defined by pending claims 1-3 and 5-6, is directed to methods for treating patients suffering from severe glaucoma, defined as exhibiting optical nerve head damage and visual field defects, by simultaneously administering combinations of latanoprost and timolol to the patient's eye.

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 are pending in this application. Claims 7-37 and 76-80 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional application(s) towards any canceled subject matter. Claims 1, 3 and 6 are amended herein. Basis for these amendments is found throughout the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-32, 34-37 and 76-80 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Action has rejected claims 1-3, 5-32, 34-37 and 76-80 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hoyng et al. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As amended herein, claims 7-37 and 76-80 are canceled which renders the objection to these claims moot.

As amended herein, pending claims 1-3 and 5-6 distinguishes over Hoyng *et al.* by claiming methods for treating patients suffering from severe glaucoma, defined as exhibiting optical nerve head damage and visual field defects, by simultaneously administering combinations of latanoprost and timolol to the patient's eye.

Hoyng does not disclose any methods for treating patients suffering from severe glaucoma. Instead, this reference discloses that adding latanoprost to timolol treatment results in additional IOP reduction; that this reduction is dependent on the frequency of application of latanoprost; and that a higher baseline IOP level results in relatively more reduction of IOP (see, page 426). This reference does not disclose that following administration of a combination of latanoprost and timolol, reduction in IOP is generally higher for patients suffering from severe glaucoma as compared to patients having only elevated IOP's (see, Tables 2.2 and 2.4, and in Tables 2.3 and 2.5 in the specification). Thus, as amended herein, claims 1-3 and 5-6 are novel over Hoyng *et al.*

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-32, 34-37 and 76-80 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

The Action has rejected claims 1-3, 5-32, 34-37 and 76-80 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As amended herein, claims 7-37 and 76-80 are canceled which renders the objection to these claims moot.

As amended herein, pending claims 1-3 and 5-6, directed to methods for treating patients suffering from severe glaucoma by administering combinations of latanoprost and timolol to the patient's eye, have adequate written description in the specification (see, Tables 2.2 and 2.4, and Tables 2.3 and 2.5).

Conclusion

Applicants believe all claims are now in condition for allowance. Should there be any issues that have not been addressed to the Examiners satisfaction, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney.

If any fees other than those submitted herewith are due in connection with this response, including the fee for any required extension of time (for which Applicants hereby petition), please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 500329.

Respectfully submitted,

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